BENGALURU, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2024 www.Bangaloremirror.com 16 Pages PRICE ₹4

Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 30 | Min 19 | Humidity 48% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 71,085 | Nifty 21,853 | Gold 63,050 | Silver 71,295 | Dollar 83.12 | Euro 90.07 | GBP 105.35

Average driving speed in Bengaluru barely inches above 18 km per hour, reveals data from city police

MOBILITY AT 18 KM PH

Bengaluru has 827 vehicles per 1,000 people, highest in country

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Have you ever wondered how fast you can actually drive on Bengaluru's bustling city roads?

City police revealed regardless of your efforts the average driving speed across Bengaluru barely inches above 18 km ph. The Silicon Valley of India, notorious for its infamous traffic jams, has seen a significant dip in average driving speeds due to numerous disruptions, ongoing road works, and frequent vehicle breakdowns.

Bengaluru boasts the highest vehicle population compared to other cities. With a staggering 827 vehicles per 1,000 people, the city eclipses Mumbai's 220, Delhi's 320, and even New York's 539 vehicles per 1,000 population. The vehicular population in Bengaluru has witnessed a steady climb over the years, growing from a modest 40 vehicles per 1,000 people in 1976 to a remarkable 821 in 2022.

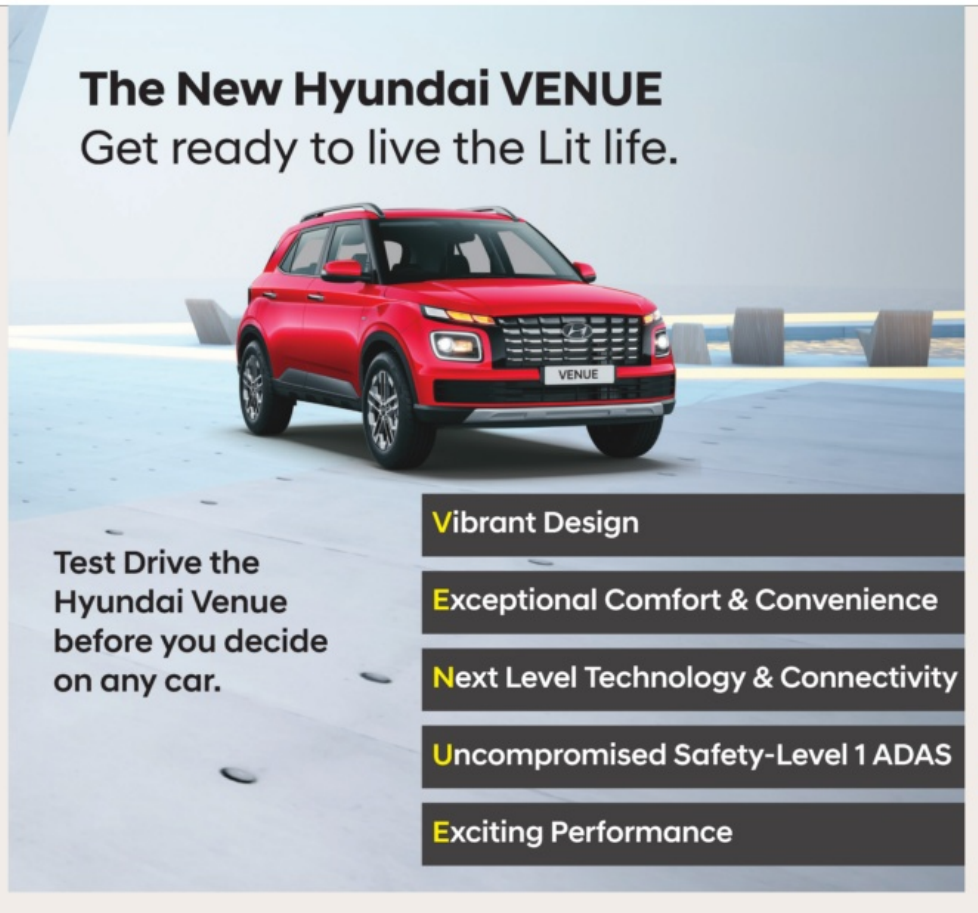
CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"The metropolis seeks innovative solutions to navigate through disruptions, address road works, and streamline the vehicular surge
— NS Bhavani Shankar, traffic enthusiast

Speed breaker

Why BMTC should deal with bus breakdowns

PAGE 3


The New Hyundai VENUE
Get ready to live the Lit life.
VENUE
Test Drive the Hyundai Venue before you decide on any car.
Vibrant Design
Exceptional Comfort & Convenience
Next Level Technology & Connectivity
Uncompromised Safety-Level 1 ADAS
Exciting Performance

Edge over Competition

	Features	VENUE SX(O)	BREZZA ZXi+ (-23)	NEXON FEARLESS + S (-18)
V	Vibrant Design			
	Dark chrome front grille	✓	✓	✗
	Chrome finish outside door handles	✓	✗	✗
	Ambient lighting	✓	✓	✗
E	Exceptional comfort & Convenience			
	Power driver seat - 4 way	✓	✗	✗
	2-step rear reclining seat	✓	✗	✗
	Power Windows - Driver side auto up-down with safety	✓	✗	✗
	Puddle lamps	✓	✗	✓
	Auto healthy air purifier	✓	✗	✓
	Front map lamps	✓	✓	✗
	Leather wrapped gear knob	✓	✗	✗
	Lane change indicator	✓	✗	✗
N	Next level technology & Connectivity			
	60+ Bluelink features	✓	✓	✗
	Sounds of nature	✓	✗	✗
	Home to car (H2C) with Alexa & Google Voice Assistant	✓	✗	✗
	Firmware Over-the-Air (FOTA) update	✓	✗	✓
U	Uncompromised Safety			
	Cornering lamps	✓	✗	✗
	Brake Assist System (BAS)	✓	✗	✗
	Vehicle Stability Management (VSM)	✓	✗	✗
	Telematics switches (SOS, RSA & Bluelink)	✓	✗	✗
	Automatic headlamps with escort function	✓	✗	✓
	Speed sensing auto door lock	✓	✗	✓
	Tyre pressure monitoring system (Highline)	✓	✗	✓
	Impact sensing auto door unlock	✓	✓	✗
	Level 1 ADAS	✓	✗	✗
E	Exciting Performance			
	Diesel Engine Advantage	✓	✗	✓
	7-Speed DCT	✓	✗	✓
	Paddle shifters	✓	✗	✓
	Drive mode select (normal, eco, sport)	✓	✗	✓

*Terms and conditions apply. Features and specifications may vary. Source: From respective manufacturer's product brochures. For more details visit your nearest Hyundai showroom.

HYUNDAI

Advaith Hyundai 9606076451 www.advaithhyundai.com corporatesales@advaithhyundai.com

Trident Hyundai 8496000181 www.tridenthyundai.com manjunath@tridenthyundai.com

Blue Hyundai 9591100001 www.bluehyundai.co.in Info@bluehyundai.in

Lakshmi Hyundai 8884499033 www.lakshmihyundai.co.in marketing.blr@lakshmigroup.co.in

Pavan Hyundai 9364012906 www.pavan.hyundaimotor.in Info@pavanhyundai.com

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Rural craft

Project Tarasha and Creative Dignity are organising the Tarasha Craft Exhibit, which is a four-day exhibition with an artisan-first approach. The event aims to support and showcase rural craft entrepreneurs and will feature more than 30 artisan enterprises. The inauguration is set to happen on Thursday. **Where: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur**
When: Thursday, February 8; 2:30 pm; craft exhibition: February 9 and 10

02 Odissi special

One of the leading Odissi exponents, Sharmila Mukerjee, and her dance ensemble Sanjali are set to present 'Hansika', an Odissi adaptation of the widely acclaimed Russian ballet Swan Lake. With an ensemble of 25 artists, Hansika showcases a western classical theme through the Indian classical danceform Odissi.
Where: ADA Rangamandira, JC Road
When: Sunday, February 4; 6:30 pm

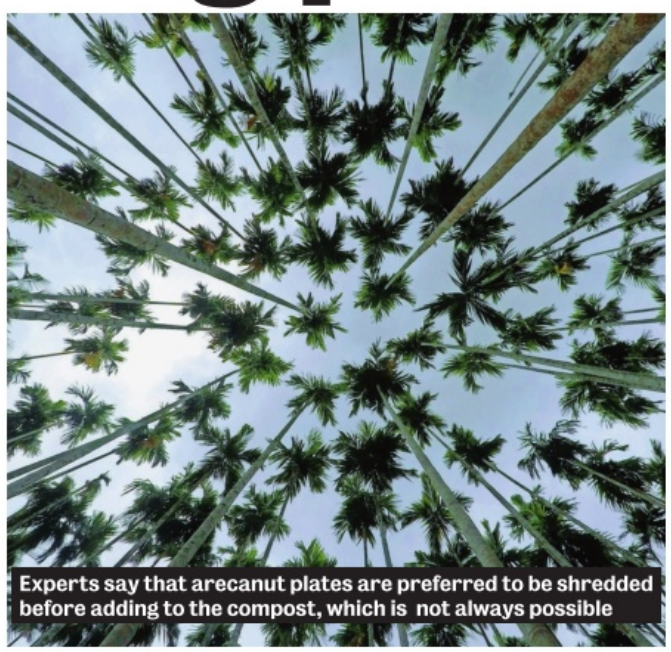
For the vendors

Bangalore Mirror and Vijaya Karnataka from Times Group, in collaboration with the Department of Labour and the Karnataka State Unorganised Workers Social Security Board, organised a registration and E-Shrama card distribution campaign for the vendors and beatboys of Vimanapura, Maruthinagar, Karthikanagar, Byappanahalli, and surrounding areas. Vimanapura dealer RV Raghavan and labour department officials added value to the programme. — BMB

It's your choice: Think before choosing plates

City-based activists debunk misconception surrounding eco-friendliness of using arecanut plates; they say these plates are voluminous and take more than year to compost

Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR


Experts say that arecanut plates are preferred to be shredded before adding to the compost, which is not always possible

The term 'eco-friendly' has become increasingly prevalent in discussions surrounding sustainability, but a common misconception exists regarding the environmental impact of certain materials, notably arecanut plates. These plates are often hailed as a sustainable alternative due to their biodegradable nature. However, the reality is more nuanced, as shared by sustainable experts.

Odette Katrak, co-founder of Beautiful Bharat, told BM that the word 'eco-friendly' is much misunderstood. The myth that pervades is that using arecanut plates makes an event eco-friendly. "I recall being invited to an event where the organisers were beaming that everything was eco-friendly and specifically pointed to the arecanut plates. Sadly, the used plates were being collected in large plastic bags, mixed with food waste, paper cups, tissues, and 200-ml water bottles, some with wasted water. Using a biodegradable material doesn't tick the box if it doesn't reduce waste to landfills, so proper segregation and disposal are important, as I explained to the organisers, which was thereafter simple to rectify," he said.

Many are confused about whether to dispose of arecanut plates in wet or dry waste, but the simple guidance is: if organic, then dispose in wet waste. However, the discarded plates need shredding; otherwise, they take very long to compost, he added.

Divya Tiwari, Chief Knowledge Officer, Saahas, said, "Arecanut plates should be added to wet waste. It doesn't release chemicals into the soil; however, it is voluminous and takes more than a year to compost. It is always preferred that it be shredded before adding to the compost, which is not always possible. When added to other wet waste without shredding, it creates anaerobic conditions. It is definitely better than plastic plates, but it is always better to go for reusable plates. The leaf plates (patravali) or banana leaves are a preferred option if you are looking for disposable plates." While the general guideline is to dispose of organic materials in wet waste, practical challenges arise when these plates are not shredded. Without proper shredding, these plates take an extended period to compost, creating anaerobic conditions when mixed with other wet waste.

> **"Using a biodegradable material doesn't tick the box if it doesn't reduce waste to landfills, so proper segregation is important** –Odette Katrak

Raj from the Ploggers Army reinforced this point, stating, "Arecabuts must go to waste. However, one needs to clear all the food content properly. Even after that, ideally, it has to be sent for shudder and then for composting. For it to degrade further in the composter, it takes a lot of time. We need to do away with the misconception that arecanuts are eco-friendly. Many times we have come across situations wherein they are thrown and they don't decompose naturally. From the waste pickers perspective too, it's really tough for them to clear all the food waste that gets stuck to the arecanut plate."

The misconception surrounding arecanut plates as inherently eco-friendly highlights the importance of holistic waste management. Sustainable experts unanimously recommend the adoption of reusable alternatives.

Portable device enhances skull bleeding detection

A study was done recently by the professors of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) to detect the performance of a new portable near-infrared spectroscopy device for the detection of traumatic intracranial hematoma (TICH). The results showed significant results where the portable device could detect bleeding in the skull that needed admission or surgery to be done and alerted the results to the health professionals.

TICH is a blood clot inside the skull due to injury to the blood vessels inside the brains or over layers of the brain that injure, resulting in bleeding. The cause of it is accidents, sometimes a fall, or even assault. While CT scans are said to be the gold standard for detecting blood clot cases in no time, they can only be detected in hospitals that have CT scans. The study was conducted by professors of the Department of Neurosurgery in NIMHANS, including Dhaval Shukla, Subhas Konar, Bhagavatula Indira Devi, Gorantla Padmasri, Ranjan Jayanna, Monisha Suresh, and Bhura Lakshita from Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences, Bengaluru. The study was published in an Elsevier journal, and according to the paper, traumatic brain injury (TBI) is considered to be a significant cause of mortality and morbidity.

The probability of TICH is higher in clinically moderate and severe TBIs. Even in clinically mild TBI, the incidence of TICH ranges from 1.6% to 29.4%, depending on the risk factors. A timely and accurate diagnosis of TICH is critical for the early management of patients with TBI. A computerised tomography (CT) scan of the head is the investigation of choice for the detection of TICH. However, the concerns for CT scans are limited access, increased radiation exposure, and an inappropriate burden on healthcare resources.

Field triaging can help to determine the presence of intracranial hematoma in patients and thus screen these patients to be referred for CT scan. A portable TICH detection tool that is accurate, easy to use, and rapid will help to bring down unnecessary CT scans and also prompt the need for an urgent CT scan in patients with TBI. Hand-held near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) devices have been developed for diagnosing TICH at the point of care.

A total of 158 participants and 944 lobes were scanned, and 18% of lobes were found to have TICH on imaging with computed tomography of the head. 33.9% of the lobes could not be scanned due to scalp lacerations. "It was observed during the study that significant bleeding requiring admission or surgery was detected by the device. A blood clot smaller than 2 mm was missed. Usually blood clots larger than 33 mm need to be operated on, and none of them were missed. The portable device takes 4 minutes to show the report. As reaching a CT scan centre can take hours, this device can be taken anywhere and can be detected," said Dr Dhaval Shukla.

— Iffath Fathima

Please put the brakes on bus breakdowns

Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Motorists and passengers of the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) have noted that bus breakdowns have become frequent. They have called on the corporation to look into the issue, so that breakdowns do not add on to traffic congestion and inconvenience commuters.

Data from the traffic police shows that 1,478 instances of bus breakdowns were recorded last year. The traffic police had noted that the number of bus breakdowns that occurred every month on an average stood between 120 to 170, with close to four to five buses breaking down every day. While the breakdowns cause hassle to passengers, they also contribute significantly to traffic congestion as when a bus breaks down, an entire carriageway is blocked. When this occurs, the traffic congestion on a three-lane road increases by 30% and by 50% on two-lane roads. Along with this, as a majority of the BMTC buses have pneumatic brakes, so nobody can even push the vehicle to another spot, when the brakes are jammed. The bus has to stay at the spot until technicians from the BMTC arrive.

Traffic police notes average monthly bus breakdowns stood between 120 to 170, with close to four to five buses breaking down every day

Eshwar M Shavi, a pre-university student, noted that when a bus breakdown occurs, all the passengers are made to alight and board a different bus plying on the same route. "The waiting time depends on the frequency of the buses running on that route. We are required to wait 5-10 minutes or more if the bus frequency is low. If breakdowns become regular, commuters will begin to consider the BMTC as an unreliable mode of transport as it disrupts their schedule," he said, adding that the brand surrounding the public transport will also be tarnished due to the traffic snarls it causes.

According to the data from traffic police, including the BMTC buses, a total of 4,658 vehicles have broken down last year. Among the other broken-down vehicles are a total of 395 Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) buses, 327 private buses, and 713 Light Motor Vehicles (LMV) and cars.

BMTC will let no complaint go unheard

Plan for IT team to also track complaints filed on social media and ensure quick resolution

BMTC passengers can also use the helpline for complaints

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) is planning to go the extra mile to understand its customers' woes. Not only will it track complaints of commuters filed on social media sites, but it is also in the process of developing a Whatsapp-based complaining system.

BMTC is building a new IT team that will cater to grievances who will ensure complaints flooding through social media platforms are taken up along with the ones received through the helpline.

As of now, the BMTC has floated a tender to hire an agency to run call centre services for its helpline. Commuters can also flag complaints through the Namma BMTC app.

The service provider shall provide manpower for the integrated 24x7 service for the helpline (080-22483777) and provide 22 executives. The executive will be required to handle multi-channel complaint registration facility modes (Phone, SMS, Online, E-mail, WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Live Chat and other modes).

The helpline acts as a nodal point for all commuter-related information like enquiries, feedback on operations and all relevant details about BMTC.

BMTC already has the software to collate complaints from all social media and streamline them into one platform.

"All complaints received on social media will get docket numbers and all complaints with be resolved," said a senior BMTC official.

A complaint will be registered after collecting the required details like caller name, number, email ID and nature of the complaint. They will also have to speak to consumers to check the closed complaint dockets to verify if it is properly resolved.

As per the tender, helpline executives will have to attend an estimated 3,000 calls, 500 emails, 300 Facebook/X complaints, 500 SMS, and 500 Whatsapp in a day. The team will have to prepare reports of complaints registered on an hourly, daily, weekly and monthly basis Additionally, they will also have to send a daily status of complaints report to all the BMTC officials within the prescribed time.

BMTC has also set up a penalty clause inside the contract where executives who misbehave with commuters or fail to follow instructions will be penalised.

ANANT CARS AUTO PVT LTD
Bannerghatta Road, Mysore Road, Marathahalli, KR Puram:
9900077177

INDIA GARAGE BANGALORE
Palace Cross Road, Whitefield, Lalbagh, Chikkaballapura:
9785513333

PPS MAHINDRA
Indiranagar, HBR Layout, Lavelle Road, Hebbal, Koramangala, Nelamangala, Kanakpura Road, Kolar:
6309555517

SIREESH AUTO PVT LTD
Hosur Road, Yelahanka, Rajajinagar, Bommasandra, Dommasandra, Devanahalli:
8884499046

HD MOTORS
Tumkur, Chitradurga, Tiptur:
9513353925

Nelamangala: Upcoming residential haven

This neighbourhood is poised for transformation that will significantly contribute to advancing real estate development

The areas in and around Nelamangala and Dasanapura are set to get a facelift. Minister for Heavy Industries and Infrastructure MB Patil said, "We are planning to construct a four-lane road from the existing two-lane road between NH junction via Dasanapura market till Nelamangala-Doddaballapur Road, which connects places like Bommashettyhalli junction. This 10-km road will act as a game changer and improve the travel infrastructure."

Srikant Gowda, a realtor, said, "Nelamangala is blessed with improved infrastructure, particularly well-maintained and accessible roads, which is playing a pivotal role in enhancing real estate development. Roads are the arteries of a community; they not only facilitate easy access but also contribute to the overall appeal of a neighbourhood. Properties located in areas with well-maintained roads often garner higher interest from buyers."

Buyers are willing to invest more in a property that offers easy connectivity to major roads and highways. It not only saves them time but also adds a sense of security and convenience to their daily lives. Accessible roads are not just about transportation; they are a critical factor influencing the desirability and market value of a property. These developments, in turn, contribute to the economic growth of the region, creating a cycle of increased property demand, infrastructure improvements, and enhanced real estate value, added Gowda.

In fact, Nelamangala has emerged as a promising destination for affordable and well-equipped residential plots. Realtors in the region highlight the unique combination of affordability and amenities that make Nelamangala an attractive choice for prospective homebuyers.

Swathi Naidu, a realtor, said, "Nelamangala has witnessed a surge in demand for plots due to its strategic location, providing a perfect blend of affordability and quality living. Buyers are increasingly drawn to the town's budget-friendly properties without compromising on essential amenities. These budget properties in Nelamangala cater to a diverse range of homebuyers, making homeownership accessible to individuals from various income brackets."

Furthermore, homebuyers say that the real estate market in Nelamangala has witnessed a positive trend, with developers focusing on creating value-for-money properties.

Ananya Kumar, a recent homebuyer in the area, said, "I was pleasantly surprised to find well-designed plots in Nelamangala that fit my budget. The amenities, such as parks, schools, and shopping centres, make it an ideal place for families like mine who seek a comfortable lifestyle without breaking the bank. Nelamangala's real estate landscape is evolving to meet the demands of buyers looking for affordable options. The town offers a range of amenities, including well-planned layouts, recreational spaces, and proximity to essential services, making it an attractive proposition for those looking to invest wisely." Overall, Nelamangala stands out as a promising hub for budget-friendly residential plots that cater to a wide audience, she added.

-Prakash VL

BM Property
Every Saturday
Contact for advertisement
Mahesh Malagi
9886721857

Atharva Developers & Promoters
Atharva Groups
the name you can trust
Ready to build houses now at affordable rates
Near Nelamangala Court
Buy plots at low rates
DC CONVERSION E-KHATA

DC Conversion Sites Available Near Mysore Road Kumbalagud

Affordable Price
1999/-
Per Sqft
HIGILIGHTS:
5 Mins Drive from Nelamangala
15 Mins From Jalahalli Cross
20 Mins From Yeswanthpur
Surrounded by Prestigious School & Colleges
SPOT BOOKING OFFER
5 ಗ್ರಾಂ ಚಿನ್ನದ ನಾಣ್ಯ ಉಚಿತ
BANK LOAN AVAILABLE
LIC HFL LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD
IDBI BANK IDBI BANK HOUSING LOAN
CanFinHomes Ltd
20×40, 30×40 Plots available with all basic Amenities
FREE Family Site Visit
888 433 5588

Want a loan? Know about hypothecation

Just as you're embarking on the thrilling process of obtaining a home loan to buy your ideal house, the word 'hypothecation' is dropped into conversation. Is that like a mortgage, and if so, what does it mean? Similar to a mortgage, hypothecation does need the use of an asset as collateral, but it goes beyond that.

There are a lot of terminologies in the realm of loans and borrowing that you might not know. Even if you have come across the term 'collateral' throughout your loan search, there are several methods by which it might be pledged. Hypothecation is one such technique in which the borrower keeps ownership rights to the collateral.

Understanding hypothecation

Using an asset, such as a house, as security for a loan is known as hypothecation. You grant permission for the asset to be utilised as loan security when you hypothecate. It's important to remember that this is only support and that you do not give the lender ownership rights. The asset remains entirely under your control and jurisdiction. The asset only becomes the property of the lender in the event that you fail to fulfil your loan commitments, such as by missing payments or breaking important terms of the loan.

Hypothecation beyond home loans

Hypothecation, commonly linked with home loans, extends its application to a variety of loans.

Personal loans: Hypothecation can be used in relation to investments, jewellery, gold, and other precious assets in the context of personal loans. By serving as collateral, these assets reduce the lender's risk and may even result in better interest rates for the borrower.

Car loans: When utilising automobiles, motorbikes, or recreational vehicles as collateral to obtain a loan, hypothecation is a factor. This implies that in the event of default on one auto loan, you can hypothecate the car to obtain another loan.

-Times Property

DS MAX
ISO 9001:2015 COMPANY

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/201201/003733

DS-MAX PROPERTIES PVT LTD

Don't wait to buy a Home; Buy a Home and wait...

To experience

Growth, Gain, and Goodness!

Investing In A Home Adds Value To Your Life, Financial Status, and Overall Well-being.
Invest In Your Dream Home Today For A Better Tomorrow!

DS-MAX
SAHARA
FOR GREATER HORIZONS

BDA APPROVED LUXURIOUS 2, 3 & 4-BHK

Mediterranean Architecture

2, 3 & 4 - BHK APARTMENTS FOR SALE IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/060923/006244
OFF TUMKUR ROAD
NEAR HIMALAYA FACTORY
₹ 45.81 - 72.67 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/150223/005721
MYSORE ROAD
NEAR RR DENTAL COLLEGE
₹ 49.63 - 79.66 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/210312/004002
K R PURAM
NEAR GARDEN CITY UNIVERSITY
₹ 51.80 - 86.24 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/151223/006489
UTTARAHALLI
NR. NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL
₹ 74.97 L - 1.74 Cr*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/190301/002464
WHITEFIELD
10 MINS. HOPE FARM CIRCLE
₹ 44.00 - 73.50 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/181122/002151
YELAHANKA
NEAR KOGILU CROSS
₹ 76.98 - 89.64 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/201201/003733
HOSA ROAD JUNCTION
5 MINS. BOSCH-ELECTRONIC CITY
₹ 50.00 L - 1.15 Cr*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/220223/005748
THANISANDRA
10 MINS. MANYATA TECH PARK
₹ 58.17 L - 1.02 Cr*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/280222/004739
CHANDAPURA
10 MINS. BOMMASANDRA METRO
₹ 37.60 - 49.60 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/290122/004660
SARJAPURA
SARJAPUR - ATTIBELE ROAD
₹ 38.72 - 49.80 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/110722/005059
BEGUR
10 MINS. TO SILK BOARD
₹ 48.35 L - 1.16 Cr*

DODDAGUBBI
NEAR HENNUR DECATHLON
₹ 53.30 - 86.90 Lakhs*

*T & C Apply

ಡಿಎಸ್ ಮ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ FOR PROJECT SPECIFIC INFORMATION 7022 791 222 www.dsmaxproperties.com

Disclaimer: Information provided in this advertisement is for reference only, and all data is sourced internally. The images, illustrations, and artist's impressions used in this advertisement are for representational purposes only. The prices mentioned are indicative and base prices. Any offers, discounts, or incentives mentioned in this advertisement are subject to specific terms and conditions. All taxes, registration charges, stamp duty, and any other statutory payments are applicable as per government regulations. All directions, locations, and landmarks are approximate. Please use reliable resources for accurate travel times. Mentioning a specific product, process, or service does not imply endorsement. Please contact our Sales Team for detailed information about specific projects, pricing, availability, and other inquiries. DS-MAX Properties ensures that all its projects comply with the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (RERA) and its regulations. **Visit : www.rera.karnataka.gov.in**

RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

Write to him at rajmohan.sudhakar@timesgroup.com

Space oddities

At present, if one looks beyond unsegregated garbage accumulating in mushrooming black spots across Bengaluru, broken and sinking footpaths, potholed roads, unserviced underground drainage and storm water drains, defunct sewage treatment plants of waterbodies and other civic mess, it is clear that our understanding of the urban setting is terribly flawed.

As more people settle in cities even as available space shrinks, management of space assumes greater focus in such a delicate social setting.

Indian cities must look east for inspiration in space management and shun west-inspired urban planning. Prosperous far eastern cities emerged as peoples from all across geography rushed in search for better life and sparked massive cultural revival.

How we manage urban spaces in India now shall have an enormous impact on the economic prospects of the world's most populous nation. Surely it shall make or break the livelihoods of millions arriving in our cities including Bengaluru.

The ubiquitous character of a city is the essence of its inhabitants and reflection of the cultural capital that emerges over time in the coming together of diverse peoples. In the India scenario, this is unique and like no other in the plurality of settlers.

Though today, the fact of the matter is, Indian cities are increasingly looking like poor imitations of their western counterparts - malls, apartments and all - as though completely detached from the sociocultural ethos of its peoples not to mention unserviced and shoddy infra caught up in the deceitful web of politics, red tape, corruption, ineptitude or what have you: smart cities for instance.

One of the most striking flaws is the bland and boring design; motifs are neither here nor there leaving urban spaces barren and uninspiring. 'Design thinking', we like to boast, at times, what a paradox. What we have is the lack or complete absence of defined design taking cue from our civilisational history unlike in the far east.

Apart from the fact that we are seeing definitive signs of collapsing urban infra, after following the west blindfolded, the failure to manage available spaces intelligently to accommodate the ever rising urban demand is not even acknowledged at policy level.

On the contrary, what we are witnessing here is the rich and mighty gobbling up premium spaces and boxing in the majority in areas poorly serviced by mandated urban amenities and by design ghettoising the marginalised, poor and vulnerable. Moreover, a lack of commitment in space management is reflected in the waste management fiasco and how those who are

physically gathering and disposing of waste are treated, deprived of permanent jobs.

People flock from villages to cities as the vast urban sprawl subsidises the collective making life easier and affordable. But what we are seeing in our cities now is unaffordable housing, poor infra and bullying of citizens out of the commons and creating premium spaces only for those who can pay: this is surely problematic urban governance.

The Japanese shrunk spaces for the benefit of the collective and mastered the art of living in almost claustrophobic confines in the world's most populous cities. This is something that has evolved traditionally with the rise of the east's greatest cities. They have even managed to shrink gigantic trees to fit in the space crunch - such is their resolve to adapt and manage spaces especially in cities. The tradition of the far east has somehow managed to master the cold and detached way of life in the city adapting certain western ideas; but some basic order and etiquette are mandatory. We are not yet even there but now home to the world's most populous cities. We need to wake up and tweak the urban spaces now and better manage our city scapes.

In the present day urban setting there rages a tug of war, unacknowledged, for space and brute guarding of such acquired spaces reminiscent of a highly territorial animal. A considerable amount of time is wasted on these space wars across commons, housing, mobility, leisure/recreation and so on.

Though we like to call ourselves a cultured collective, this subconscious bickering for exclusive space in traffic, in residential layouts, IT parks, supermarkets and all urban commons is stealing the sheen of the city, yet to come of age.

Nevertheless, amid political campaigns and subsequent legislation upholding language of the region we must keep in mind the collective evolution of our cities shall quintessentially bind the country together as well. Great cities are welcoming and shun isolationist policies of all hues.

Character of the collective is shaped by the spaces its members share -- within the family, neighbourhood community, at commons such as parks and waterbodies as are in Bengaluru. As we stare at unprecedented challenges in housing, water supply, energy efficiency, to name a few, we must steer carefully to ensure ecological balance and sustainability taking into account incoming erratic weather.

Another brick in the wall at Halasuru Lake

...And finally, BBMP decides to close off gap that had been allowing C&D waste dumpers, miscreants to enter lake premises and sully it

The scene at Halasuru Lake before the construction of the wall began

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

At last the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has pulled up its socks to address the long-pending problem at Halasuru Lake. The entrance on the gurudwara side has been an eyesore all these years. It was a destination for miscreants, who are said to have been slipping in for illegal fishing and also had converted it into a yellow space.

A few irresponsible building contractors also used to dump construction & demolition (C&D) debris here. Now, the BBMP has begun constructing a retaining wall closing off the gap. Residents and lake activists have welcomed the BBMP's decision to construct the retaining wall.

"I appreciate the BBMP Commissioner and Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad for taking initiative to end the menace of miscreants at Halasuru Lake. The authorities must also fence the open space between the lake and Swami Vivekananda Park," said NS Ravi, president of Bharathinagar Residents' Forum.

V Purushotham, a resident of Annaswamy Mudaliar Road, said the BBMP must increase the height of the concrete wall up to six feet to prevent entry of miscreants from nearby. "The entrance has no gate and the low-level compound wall served no purpose all these years. With the compound wall not more than four feet, the miscreants used to climb the wall without any hassles. Authorities must construct the retaining wall on the entire stretch," said Purushotham.

Bangalore Mirror had published a story – The lake minded – on January 13, 2024, narrating how the open entrance of Halasuru Lake has become a place for dumping garbage, construction and demolition debris.

Recently, the BBMP allocated Rs 1 crore for fencing Halasuru Lake. It may be recalled that Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad, speaking with Bangalore Mirror, said that developmental works worth Rs 4 crore were already sanctioned. He said that

> **"The authorities must also fence the open space between the lake and Swami Vivekananda Park**
>
> –NS Ravi, residents' forum

there is a Rs 30 crore to Rs 40 crore plan to develop Halasuru Lake.

Appreciating the BBMP for taking up construction of the retaining wall to close the open entrance, BR Chandran, a social activist from Halasuru, said the BBMP should take measures to close illegal entry points and replace broken fences," Chandran said.

BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer (Lakes) said the construction of the retaining wall has been taken up to prevent people dumping and throwing garbage into the lake land. "Some irresponsible people come on two-wheelers and fling garbage into the lake. We have decided to put a fence on the concrete wall to deter the riders from throwing garbage in," said the Assistant Executive Engineer.

Yet another video of student cleaning school toilet goes viral

Another incident of school children cleaning school toilets at the Government Junior Primary School in Bynahalli village in Kolar district has gone viral on social media despite the Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah warnings against such acts.

The video -- which shows the school girl cleaning the toilet -- was captured by the locals and demanded strict action against the school authorities.

Two students have been recorded on camera, cleaning toilets in a government school on January 30. The incident follows a pattern which has emerged across various schools in the state. This incident marks the third such case in the past two months.

The previous incident included

> **Locals capture video of school girl cleaning loo at Govt junior primary school in Kolar**

students being sent down toilet pits in Kolar at the Yelavalli Morarji Desai Residential School. The development had created a public outrage.

The Education Department had suspended the headmistress. In another case the headmistress of the Government Model Primary School in Bengaluru was arrested.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar had warned against engaging students to clean toilets at the school. —IANS

Tribunal directs swift action on forest encroachment

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary of Forest, Karnataka, to ensure that appropriate remedial action is taken on encroached or damaged forest land without any further delay. This step has to be taken after the Forest Department completes the proposed survey announced by the Forest Minister early this year.

The principal bench of the Green Court has also directed the authorities to file a compliance report on action taken with the Southern Zone Bench of the tribunal.

Earlier, in a note issued from Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre to the Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Forests, Ecology and Environment, the Minister had asked for a fresh survey of forest area with the help of satellite data to ascertain the extent of encroachment and destruction due to mining activities.

A team comprising higher officials from Mines, Revenue, Police, Forest, and Ecology was to be set up for the survey and assessment of Karnataka's forest cover, which was to be completed within a month.

NGT has registered suo moto on the basis of this order followed by media reports.

"Forest department has ordered a survey based on satellite imagery to measure the extent of forest encroachment and destruction activities carried out, if any, due to mining of iron ore across the State of Karnataka. The factum that the extent of encroachment and damage is being ascertained, emphasises that there is some encroachment and damage to the forest land causing damage to the environment. In our view, a mere survey to conduct the extent of damage and encroachment is not sufficient and the concerned authorities should also consider proceeding to take up remedial action also in respect of the encroachment and damage found in the said forest land," noted the tribunal in its order passed on Wednesday.

BRT Tiger Reserve in Chamarajanagar District

The tribunal has given two months to the Department to take remedial actions. The timeline is decided based on the Minister's note stating that the survey report be prepared in one month.

"We find that one month has been allowed to get the report prepared. We accordingly direct that remedial action shall be taken within the next two months after submission of the report and thereafter within the next 15 days compliance report shall be submitted with Registrar of Southern Zone Bench of this Tribunal," noted the order passed on Wednesday.

Separate ID cards for PG inmates on the cards

As police issue comprehensive guidelines for paying guest houses, association too thinks of some measures focusing on safety and legal compliance

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Under pressure from the police and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), the Paying Guest (PG) association is considering the issuance of identity cards for residents in their establishments.

Arun Kumar, president of the PG Owners Association, said, "Bengaluru, being the hub of job opportunities, attracts many individuals to reside in paying guest accommodations. Numerous allegations have been raised in the past, and now the PG association is contemplating the issuance of identity cards for residents. Concurrently, we appreciate the guidelines put forth by the police, primarily focused on ensuring safety. We are committed to strict adherence to these guidelines and advocate for the issuance of identity cards for PG residents."

Meanwhile, police issued comprehensive guidelines for Guest Houses, specifically Paying Guest Houses, in accordance with Section 34(d) and Section 70 of the Karnataka Police Act.

"Firstly, it is imperative to obtain the mandatory trade license from BBMP. Additionally, rigorous documentation is required, including the collection of identity cards and recent photographs of all individuals residing on the premises. Details of blood relatives, along with their mobile numbers, must be recorded through computerisation, maintaining a separate log for visitors. To address safety concerns, PG owners must adhere to the Karnataka Public Safety Act 2017 by installing CCTV cameras and implementing necessary measures to mitigate fire hazards. Prohibiting illegal activities, especially the consumption and storage of drugs, is strictly mandated."

A paying guest facility on Hosur Road

Police guidelines also stressed that admittance into the establishments should only be for authorised individuals

The rules further ask for the display of essential service phone numbers, such as local police stations, emergency response (112), medical services (103), and cybercrime (1930). Availability of first aid equipment is also a prerequisite. "In terms of personnel, PG owners are required to conduct thorough background checks, including police verification, for individuals hired for duties like cooks and security guards. Recruitment should proceed only after address verification and obtaining information about blood relatives, with proper documentation maintained. For foreign nationals residing in the PG, providing information to the local police station through Form "C" under the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939, is mandatory," the guidelines said.

Police guidelines also stressed that admittance into the establishment should only be for authorised individuals, and strict adherence to the Supreme Court order restricting the use of loudspeakers between 10 pm to 6 am is essential. "PG owners must acknowledge their direct liability in case of any untoward incidents due to a lack of safety or precautionary measures. These guidelines are crucial for maintaining safety, security, and legal compliance within Paying Guest Houses in Bengaluru," the guidelines added.

Guest count

There are reportedly over 20,000 PG accommodations hosting around 17 lakh residents in the city. Previously, prompted by pressure from resident welfare associations, the BBMP decided to regulate PG accommodations due to the conversion of numerous residential buildings into PGs and the lack of essential facilities in many of them. To address the issue, BBMP proposed new regulations, including restrictions on the number of occupants per room and the number of washrooms per operator. However, these proposals faced opposition from the associations. BBMP officials claimed that several PGs located on the outskirts lacked khatas and were not declared as commercial establishments, highlighting the need for regulatory measures in these areas.

Preethi Mishra, who stays in a PG at Marathalli, said, "The guidelines are welcome as before joining PG, many are promised a lot of amenities. However, after joining, we realised that the food is substandard while overall quality is poor to average. There needs to be accountability as many PGs charge a hefty price."

Student killed as BMTC bus knocks down scooter

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

On Friday, a 21-year-old engineering student was killed on the spot after a Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) bus knocked her down. Videos of the incident have captured the bus dragging the woman close to 15 feet from where she was knocked down on the Maha Kavi Kuvempu (MKK) Road situated near Devaiah Park in Malleswaram.

The deceased has been identified as Kusumitha, a student at JSS Academy of Technical Education located in Rajarajeshwari Nagar. Kusumitha was a resident of 13th Cross in Malleshwaram and was travelling from her residence to college when the unfortunate incident occurred. The police have noted that the bus did not run over her but brushed against the two-wheeler while plying on the Shivajinagar to Kamalanagar route. As Kusumitha lost balance, she was caught under the bus along with her two-wheeler.

Kusumitha lost balance and was caught under the bus along with her two-wheeler

The BMTC said that the victim made an attempt to overtake the bus from the left side and applied sudden brakes to avoid hitting an auto-rickshaw parked on the street, resulting in the casualty around 8.30 am. It has also provided CCTV footage from inside the bus to corroborate its claim. Fearing the consequences of the death, the bus driver fled from the scene and contacted his depot management immediately. He informed the depot officials that he immediately applied brakes as soon as he heard the vehicle colliding with the bus and saw the woman going under the bus in the rearview mirror.

The Malleshwaram traffic police have booked the driver and have registered a case of accidental death. The driver will be summoned for inquiry.

Railway boost: Doubling tracks and speeding up

Interim budget allocates funds for doubling railway tracks, introduces plans for 200 km ph trains, aims to enhance travel experience and reduce travel time between Bengaluru and Chennai

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The interim budget has focused on the doubling of railway tracks by allocating fresh funds. Doubling is deemed necessary as it will aid in increasing train speeds and introducing new trains.

According to the interim budget presented on Thursday, Rs 197 crore has been allocated for the doubling of Gadag-Hotgi, Rs 180.4 crore for Penukonda-Dharmavaram, Rs 150 crore for Baiyappanahalli-Hosur, Rs 150 crore for Yeshwanathpur-Channasandra, Rs 200 crore for Londa-Miraj, Rs 94 crore for Hubballi-Chikkajajur, Rs 260 crore for quadrupling of Bengaluru Cantonment-Whitefield, Rs 400 crore for Hospet-Thinaighat-Vasco Da-Gama, and Rs 100.1 crore for Hosur-Omalur railway lines.

Meanwhile, the allocation for new lines is Rs 380 crore for Gadag (Talkal)-Wadi, Rs 300 crore for Ginegera-Raichur, Rs 300 crore for Tumakuru-Davanagere via Chitradurga, Rs 250 crore for Tumakuru-Rayadurga via Kalyandurgal, Rs 410 crore for Bagalkot-Kudachi, Rs. 200 crore for Shivamogga-Shikaripura-Ranebennur, Rs 50 crore for Belagavi-Dharwad (via Kittur); Rs, 170 crore for Marikuppam-Kuppam, Rs 160 crore for Kadur-Hassan, Rs 20 crore for Magalur-Palasamudram, and Rs 5 crore for Hassan-Belur.

However, railway activists were not happy with the allocation, terming it insufficient, as many projects have been ongoing for several years with inadequate funding. Nevertheless, Railway Minister Ashwini Vasihnaw stated, "In the 2024-25 budget, the highest-ever capital allocation of Rs 2.52 lakh crores has been made for the Ministry of Railways. Immense thrust is given for the development of infrastructure, modernisation of stations and trains, enhancement of connectivity, safety, and comfort for passengers."

He said that there has been a consistent increase in the average annual budget outlay for railways in Karnataka. The total outlay is Rs 7329 crores for South Western Railways, with the allocation for the state of Karnataka being Rs 7,524 crores. Continuing the emphasis on enhancing infrastructure to provide connectivity, an allocation of Rs 2286 crores for the new line, Rs 1531 crores for doubling has been made. For ensuring uninterrupted best service to passengers, Rs 987 crores have been allocated for passenger amenities. The vision is to offer world-class amenities to every common railway passenger, in line with which all major stations are being redeveloped. The redevelopment work has commenced at Bengaluru Cantonment and Yeshwanthpur stations already. Under the Amrit Bharat Stations Scheme, 48 no. of stations in SWR have been taken up for redevelopment. Pan-India, Rs 30,000 crores have been set aside for this purpose.

Vande Bharat Express train between Bengaluru-Coimbatore parked at Bengaluru's Cantonment railway station

"Immense thrust is given for the development of infrastructure, modernisation of stations and trains, enhancement of connectivity, safety, and comfort for passengers – Ashwini Vasihnaw, Railway Minister

Trains to Bengaluru set to accelerate

Railways between Bengaluru and Chennai are set to enhance travel experiences with trains operating at 200 km ph on the Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysuru route. This initiative aims to significantly reduce the current four-hour travel time of Vande Bharat trains. The feasibility of increased train speeds is under consideration, bypassing the wait for a high-speed corridor. Upgrading and installing tracks are vital requirements, with the plan to utilise the existing alignment for semi-high-speed trains before high-speed trains exceeding 200 km ph. RN Singh, Southern Railway's general manager, confirmed that detailed project reports are underway, with an expected completion date in March.

This aligns with the railway's strategy to utilise existing infrastructure for 200 km ph trains before introducing high-speed trains, exploring options like new lines and track strengthening. Simultaneously, the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) is upgrading Vande Bharat trains in line with this initiative.

Into the future at 18 km ph

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The city's ever-expanding road network spans 14,000 km, accommodating a whopping 1.2 crore registered vehicles. Furthermore, Bengaluru has the highest number of private cars in the entire country. The growth narrative of Bengaluru unfolds with a 3.745 per cent Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) in population and an impressive 10 per cent CAGR in vehicular growth. "The city grapples with 14,000 intersections, including 400 signalised intersections and 600 manned intersections. A closer look reveals that over 70 per cent of vehicles navigating Bengaluru's roads are two-wheelers, accompanied by 6,400 buses. Private vehicles make up 34 per cent, public transport covers 32 per cent, autos contribute 7 per cent, and non-motorised transport claims 27 per cent of the overall vehicle landscape," said data from Bengaluru Traffic Police.

Interestingly, the vehicle-to-population ratio in Bengaluru stands at 1:12, in stark contrast to Delhi's 1:20. The city's dynamic traffic landscape mirrors the complex interplay between its burgeoning population and the surge in vehicular growth. Delving into weekday traffic patterns, the Bengaluru City Police identify peak hours between 7:30 am and 10:30 am, while Saturdays witness a shift in peak traffic to 1 pm. "A fascinating correlation emerges as global holidays impact local traffic. On November 23, 2023, at around 2:30 pm, Thanksgiving Day in the United States triggered an unexpected surge in traffic, affecting the daily commute of Bengaluru's office-goers," said joint commissioner of police (traffic) MN Anucheth.

NS Bhavani Shankar, who has a keen interest in analysing city traffic said: "Bengaluru's City Police are actively engaged in deciphering and managing the city's traffic maze. With average speeds holding steady at 18 km ph, the metropolis seeks innovative solutions to navigate through disruptions, address road works, and streamline the vehicular surge. The ongoing battle for efficient traffic management continues, as Bengaluru adapts to its evolving urban landscape."

Expressing the challenges in managing traffic, a senior police official said: "The languid pace of traffic in Bengaluru at an average speed of 18 km ph translates into a daily test of patience for thousands of vehicle users navigating the city's roads. The crawling speeds contribute not only to heightened frustration but also significantly impact the environment. As vehicles inch forward, the prolonged periods of idling result in increased pollution levels, adding to the city's already burgeoning air quality challenges. The stop-and-go nature of slow-moving traffic further exacerbates fuel consumption, as vehicles burn more fuel during frequent accelerations and decelerations. This not only drains the pockets of vehicle owners but also contributes to the city's carbon footprint. Moreover, the extended commute times due to sluggish traffic have ripple effects on productivity and overall well-being. Vehicle users find themselves grappling with the dual challenges of time wastage and increased stress levels, creating a pressing need for sustainable solutions to alleviate the strain on both the city traffic infrastructure and mental resilience of its residents."

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Bad roads
Nagarbhavi

The road near the roundabout has completely deteriorated.

Debris dilemma
Brunton Road

Debris after shoddy work by BWSSB left uncleared.

High tension risk
Babusapalya

Banners tied to a high-tension tower near Babusapalya Bus Stop Main Road

Leash on AI
European Union's 27 member states on Friday approved landmark rules on reining in artificial intelligence

Get goggle-eyed

Why Apple is pushing the term 'spatial computing' along with its new Vision Pro headset

With Apple's hotly anticipated Vision Pro headset hitting store shelves on Friday, you're probably to start to see more people wearing the futuristic googles that are supposed to usher in the age of "spatial computing."

It's an esoteric mode of technology that Apple executives and their marketing gurus are trying to thrust into the mainstream while avoiding other more widely used terms such as "augmented reality" and "virtual reality" to describe the transformative powers of a product that's being touted as potentially monumental as the the iPhone that came out in 2007.

"We can't wait for people to experience the magic," Apple CEO Tim Cook gushed on Thursday while discussing the Vision Pro with analysts. The Vision Pro also will be among Apple's most expensive products at USD 3,500 — a price point that has most analysts predicting the company may only sell 1 million or fewer devices during its first year.

But Apple only sold about 4 million iPhones during that device's first year on the market and now sells more than 200 million of them annually, so there is a history of what initially appear to be a niche product turning into something that becomes enmeshed in how people live and work.

If that happens with the Vision Pro, references to spatial computing could become as ingrained in modern-day vernacular as mobile and personal computing — two previous technological revolutions in technology that Apple played an integral role in creating.

What is spatial computing?

It's a way to describe the intersection between the physical world around us and a virtual world fabricated by technology while enabling humans and machines to harmoniously manipulate objects and spaces.

> **"Spatial computing will enable devices to understand the world in ways they never have been able to do before. It is going to change human to computer interaction, and eventually every interface**

Accomplishing these tasks often incorporates elements of augmented reality, or AR, and artificial intelligence, or AI — two subsets of technology that are helping to make spatial computing happen, said Cathy Hackl, a long-time industry consultant who is now running a startup working on apps for the Vision Pro.

"This is a pivotal moment," Hackl said. "Spatial computing will enable devices to understand the world in ways they never have been able to do before. It is going to change human to computer interaction, and eventually every interface — whether it's a car or a watch — will become spatial computing devices." In a sign of the excitement surrounding the Vision Pro, more than 600 newly designed apps will be available to use on the headset right away, according to Apple. The range of apps will include a wide selection of television networks, video streaming services (although Netflix and Google's YouTube are notably absent from the list) video games and various educational options.

On the work side of things, videoconferencing service Zoom and other companies that provide online meeting tools have built apps for the Vision Pro, too.

But the Vision Pro could expose yet another disturbing side of technology if its use of spatial computing is so compelling that people start seeing the world differently when they aren't wearing the headset and start to believe life is far more interesting when seen through the goggles.

Screen addiction

That scenario could worsen the screen addictions that have become endemic since the iPhone's debut and deepen the isolation that digital dependence tends to cultivate. Apple is far from the only prominent technology company working on spatial computing products. For the past few years, Google has been working on a three-dimensional videoconferencing service called "Project Starline" that it draws upon "photorealistic" images and a "magic window" so two people sitting in different cities feel like they are in the same room.

But Starline hasn't been widely released. Facebook's parent, Meta, also has for years been selling the Quest headset that could be seen as a platform for spatial computing, though the company hasn't positioned the device in that manner

Vision Pro, in contrast, is being backed by companies with the marketing prowess and customer allegiance that tend to trigger trends. The concept of spatial computing has been around for at least 20 years.

In a 132-page research paper on the subject published in 2003 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Simon Greenwold made a case for automatically flushing toilets to be a primitive form of spatial computing. Greenwold supported his reasoning by pointing out the toilet "senses the user's movement away to trigger a flush" and "the space of the system's engagement is a real human space."

The Vision Pro, of course, is far more sophisticated than a toilet. One of the most compelling features in the Vision Pro is its high-resolution screens that can play back three-dimensional video recordings of events and people to make it seem like the encounters are happening all over again.

Apple already laid the groundwork for selling the Vision Pro by including the ability to record what it calls "spatial video" on the premium iPhone 15 models released in September.

Apple's headset also reacts to a user's movements through hand gestures and eye movement. While wearing the headset, users will also be able to use just their hands to pull up and arrange an array of virtual computer screens, similar to a scene featuring Tom Cruise in the 2002 film, "Minority Report."

Spatial computing "is a technology that's starting to adapt to the user instead of requiring the user to adapt to the technology," Hackl said. "It's all supposed to be very natural."

It remains to be seen how natural it may seem if you are sitting down to have dinner with someone else wearing the goggles instead of intermittently gazing at their smartphone. **AP**

BITS & BYTES

META MEGA SURGE

Meta surged more than 17% on Friday as Facebook parent's first dividend declaration and robust results increased expectations of strong returns from its investments in "metaverse" technologies and artificial intelligence infrastructure.

Days ahead of Facebook's 20th anniversary, Meta authorized an additional $50 billion in share repurchases and said its quarterly dividend would be 50 cents per share. The firm is the first of its generation of internet juggernauts to issue a dividend, and the fourth from the "Magnificent Seven" stocks. **Reuters**

TESLA PROBE UPGRADE

US safety regulators have upgraded their probe into Tesla vehicles over power steering loss to an engineering analysis - a required step before the agency could demand a potential recall. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)said on Friday the probe covers about 334,000 Model 3 and Model Y vehicles from the 2023 model.

Tesla did not respond to a request for comment. NHTSA, which had opened a preliminary evaluation in July into loss of steering control in 280,000 Tesla Model 3 and Y vehicles, said it had identified 2,388 complaints, with some reporting an inability to turn the steering, while others reported an increase in effort to turn it.
Reuters

'NO VOTING RIGHTS'

Embattling edtech company Byju's on Friday said investors have no voting rights on CEO change, after statements from a select few investors surfaced, calling for an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) to replace founder and group CEO Byju Raveendran.

Think & Learn Private Limited, the parent of Byju's, said it will continue with the proposed $200 million rights issue after receiving encouraging responses from multiple investors.

In a separate letter to employees seen by IANS, the company accused certain investors of "conspiring" against the company in this time of crisis. **IANS**

mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/bangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

IN THE MOMENT

A white-cheeked barbet perching on a bottlebrush tree, enjoying a calm evening

The picture was clicked by BM reader **Sridhar Comaravalli**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Metro's parking setup spawns traffic nightmare

Citizens express frustration over disorderly parking situation at South End Metro Station; they say it leads to needless delays

Parking at the South End Metro Station has become a bit chaotic, with many vehicles, especially autos, being haphazardly parked in front of the station. This creates traffic jams on the busy road, causing inconvenience to both motorists and commuters. Surya, a regular commuter who takes the bike to the metro, told BM that he finds it challenging to park due to the limited space. He prefers the convenience of riding to the metro station, but the lack of proper parking facilities leads to unnecessary delays. Despite paying parking fees at some metro stations, passengers are frustrated with the poor facilities.

> **"The BMRCL needs to take responsibility and devise practical solutions, ensuring affordable options**
> — Swathi Kumar

Ananya, another metro rider, said that she opts to travel from Banashankari to access ground parking, avoiding fines and ensuring a hassle-free experience.

The BMRCL website indicates that fees are collected at 33 out of 66 operational stations, yet there is a stark contrast between parking inside and outside designated areas. The lack of order in the parking lot, especially near the South End Station, has resulted in traffic congestion and accidents, prompting the need for a solution.

The issue extends beyond South End Station, affecting various metro stations lacking adequate parking facilities. "The BMRCL needs to take responsibility and devise practical solutions, ensuring affordable and accessible parking options for commuters. The current scenario of vehicles parked in no-parking zones, leading to fines and creating congestion, demands immediate attention and resolution. Clear signage indicating no-parking zones needs reinforcement, and effective measures should be implemented to streamline parking near metro stations for the convenience of all commuters," said Swathi Kumar, another regular commuter. **— Chaitanya M**

Parked autos create traffic jams on the busy road, causing inconvenience to motorists

DID YOU KNOW?

St Mary's Basilica was the first church in the state of Karnataka to be given the status of a minor basilica. It is one of the oldest churches in Bengaluru, and this shrine was previously known as the Chapel of Kanikkai Madha. It is said that the sacred place was built by Tamil Christian migrants. The church was rebuilt between 1856 and 1882. After the establishment of Bangalore Cantonment, it was regularly attended by Indian and European Catholics. The church is also popular for its architectural style and stained glass windows.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

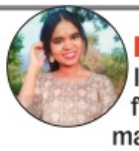
9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

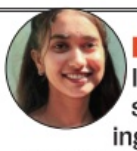
TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Do you think Karnataka should also follow HImachal's lead and raise marriage age of women to 21 years? And why?

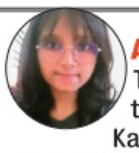


Madhumathi, BM Reader
In my perspective, advocating for an increase in the age limit for marriages is not only essential, but making it compulsory is equally crucial. Hailing from a village background, I feel a deep responsibility to address this issue.



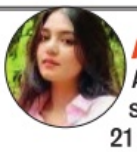
Deepa Bai, BM Reader
Increasing the marriage age is a significant positive for girls, offering them better opportunities for education and independence. Many women I've spoken to, even those already married, have expressed positive reactions.

Ananya Padaki, BM Reader
This change aims to empower women by allowing them more time for personal and educational growth before taking on marital responsibilities. While cultural aspects may be considered, move reflects a progressive approach.



Ananya DR, BM Reader
The government should extend the age bar to 21 for girls in Karnataka too. It would allow them to finish their education with less pressure on marriage. The implementation of this act would be a positive change.

Dhanya Agarwal, BM Reader
Karnataka should absolutely increase the marriage age of women to 21. Since the dawn of time, women have been put into the institution of marriage with zero tools and zero ways of being able to have a life of their own.



Adeeba Afreen, BM Reader
According to me, the age limit should increase at least up to 21 years, and also above is an advantage. At the age of 18, a person should be fully committed to a career; it's more like a stepping stone for their future.

SPEAK TO US

In your opinion, what makes Bengaluru unique compared to other major cities in India?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

HEALTH TIP: Try to keep to a healthy lifestyle – eat a balanced diet and exercise regularly during menopause

Beetroot is a good source of iron that is essential for the formation of haemoglobin and enzymes

BangaloreMirror | 11
Saturday, February 3, 2024
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

AGE OF FEAR

Fear of ageing is a fear of the unknown – and modern society is making things worse

For the first time in human history, we have entered an era in which reaching old age is taken for granted. Unlike in ages past, when living to an older age was a luxury afforded mainly to the privileged, globally around 79% of women and 70% of men can expect to reach the age of 65 and beyond.

Despite longer life expectancy, many people in the contemporary west see growing old as undesirable and even scary. Research shows, however, that anxiety about ageing may in fact be fear of the unknown.

Society's focus on youthfulness and capability can cause anxiety about becoming weak and unwanted. Adverts for anti-ageing products are everywhere, reinforcing the idea that growing older is inherently unattractive.

Some people fear ageing so much that it becomes a pathological condition called gerascophobia, leading to irrational thoughts and behaviour, for example, a fixation on health, illness and mortality and a preoccupation with hiding the signs of ageing.

We frequently hear about attempts to reverse ageing, often by the super rich. For example, Bryan Johnson, a 45-year-old American entrepreneur, is spending millions of dollars a year to obtain the physical age of 18.

While the desire to reverse ageing is not a new phenomenon, advancements in biomedicine have brought it closer.

Work published by genetics professor David Sinclair at Harvard University in 2019 suggests that it may be possible to challenge the limits of cell reproduction to extend our lifespan, for example. His information theory of ageing argues that reprogramming DNA can improve damaged and old tissues, and delay or even reverse ageing. However, these new possibilities can also heighten our fear of ageing.

From the unproductive to undervalued

People haven't always dreaded growing older. In many societies, older people used to be widely regarded as wise and important – and in some they still are.

In ancient China, there was a culture of respecting and seeking advice from older family members. There is still an ethos of filial piety (showing reverence and care for elders and ancestors) today, even if it's not as pronounced as it used to be. The same went for medieval Europe, where older people's experiences and wisdom were highly valued.

However, the industrial revolution in the west from the 18th century led to a cultural shift where older people became excluded from society and were considered unproductive. People who had surpassed the age to work, alongside those with incurable diseases, were regarded by society as "evils" in need of assistance.

The treatment of older people has taken a different form since the early 20th century. The introduction of universal pension systems made ageing a central concern in welfare systems. But as the demands for social and health care have increased, journalists increasingly portray ageing as a burden on society.

> **Society's focus on youthfulness and capability causes anxiety about becoming weak, unwanted; adverts for anti-ageing products reinforce the idea that growing older is unattractive**

Consequently, growing older is often associated with managing the risk of ill health and alleviating the onus of care from younger relatives. This can result in the institutionalisation of older people in residential facilities that keep them hidden, sequestered from the awareness of younger generations.

Research analysing the responses of 1,200 US adults from the American Association of Retired Persons' Images of Ageing survey shows that much of the perceived fear of ageing is closely aligned with the fear of the unknown, rather than the ageing process itself. This fear is only exacerbated by the largely separate lives lived by older and younger generations.

The prevalence of nuclear families and the decline of traditional mixed-generational communities have deprived younger people of the opportunity to more fully understand the experiences of older people. Plus, the rapid increase in house prices means many young people cannot afford to live near their older relatives.

The separation of older people from children and young people has sparked generational conflicts that seemingly continue to grow wider than ever. Older people are frequently portrayed in the media as conservative and privileged, making it difficult for younger generations to comprehend why older people act and think the way they do.

Intergenerational interactions

Academics suggest that creating a system for older and younger generations to interact in everyday settings is vital.

A set of three UK-based studies in 2016 analysed and compared the effects of direct contact, extended contact and interactions between younger (aged 17 to 30) and older people (65 and over). The findings indicated that good quality direct intergenerational contact can improve young people's attitudes towards older adults (especially when sustained over time).

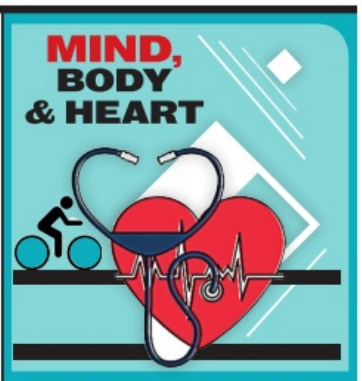
Intergenerational programmes have been adopted globally, including mixed and intergenerational housing, community choirs and senior volunteers reading to young children in nurseries.

Studies show that these activities can not only enhance the wellbeing of older people but also help younger people gain an appreciation of ageing as a valuable and fulfilling life stage.

Getting worried about growing older is normal, just as we experience anxieties in other stages of life, such as adolescence and marriage. But here's the thing – instead of seeing ageing as a looming figure, it is important to realise it is just a part of life.

Once we understand ageing as a regular experience, we can let go of these worries and approach the journey through different life stages with a positive attitude and a fortified will to enrich our lives and the lives of those around us.

(By Chao Fang, University of Liverpool and Alastair Comery, University of Bath,The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Health risks of vaping

Major risks
Mothers Against Vaping, a united front of mothers combatting the vaping crisis, has highlighted major health risks associated with vaping.

Excessive nicotine
The first risk it has highlighted is that new-age tobacco devices, unlike typical cigarettes, can result in excessive nicotine intake and these devices enable more prolonged usage sessions.

Harmful emission
Vapours emitted from new-age tobacco devices consist of a range of harmful substances, including nicotine, diacetyl, which are linked to severe lung injury. The aerosol from e-cigarettes contains particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns (PM2.5).

Other ill effects
E-cigarettes, in particular, harm blood vessels, increasing the risk of heart disease. They are also linked to negative effects on the immune system and reproductive organs.

Environmental damage
These devices contribute to environmental issues and consequently harm humans. Improper disposal of these components contributes to e-waste, posing environmental hazards.

Mental health issues
The fifth health hazard pertains to mental well-being. Peer-reviewed studies have revealed connections between vaping, nicotine and the exacerbation of symptoms related to depression and anxiety.

Oral health
Cchemicals in these products pose a significant risk to oral health, leading to issues like gum disease, tooth decay and oral infections.

Gateway to more addictions
Alternative tobacco products could act as a gateway to more severe addictions. —IANS

Monkey fever spreads in K'taka, 21 cases reported

At least 21 cases of monkey fever have been reported from Karnataka's Uttara Kannada district so far, officials said on Friday.

They said that among the 21 persons affected with monkey fever, eight have been admitted to the hospitals while 13 are being treated at home.

They said that the authorities are carrying out awareness among people about the precautions to prevent the disease from spreading.

Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD) is commonly known as monkey fever. It is a seasonal tick-borne viral haemorrhagic fever endemic to Southern India and may prove to be fatal to humans as well. People living in and around the forests are at high risk of catching the viral infection as the virus is mostly found in forest areas.

Monkey fever is caused by a virus belonging to the family Flaviviridae, the same family of viruses that causes yellow fever and dengue, which is transmitted by monkeys.

Humans contract the disease either by coming in contact with the infected animal. Since infected individuals are dead-end hosts, they do not play any role in the further transmission of Kyasanur Forest Disease.

Dr. Niraj, the District Health Officer (DHO) said that the people are warned not to venture into the forest area.

"Those who will have to go into the forests are provided with repellent oil to be applied to exposed areas of the body like legs and hands. They need to wash properly once they are back. So far 21 cases are reported," he said.

He said that the people have been asked to contact health authorities if they have symptoms of fever, cough and cold.

"People affected with monkey fever for the second time, may have symptoms of bleeding and temperature can soar as well. The people need to take precautions as the vaccines administered earlier have not worked effectively. The new vaccine is yet to come until then people have to be careful," he said. –IANS

This fever is caused by a virus that is said to be transmitted through ticks that live on monkeys

Your Connect

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

BANNERGHATTA ROAD

PURVA SMILING WILLOWS: PURVA SYMPHONY, 3 & 4 BHK Villa's, ready to occupy off Bannerghatta road. For more details Call - 99007 77099.

DEVANAHALLI

SALE:SITE @ Devanahalli, Vijipura Road, 200 mtrs from highway. 50×80,4000sft E-Katha BIAPPA Apprvd (Rs.3500/- sft). East facing. Call: 90601 25551.

HENNUR

SATTVA NORTHLAND ROW HOUSE
Settler
9880225333
9845035333

4BHK 3650SFT. Unused 4.20Cr. Unshire Esplanade off Tanisandra Rd Unused 4BHK 3411sft 2.75Cr. 9880225333/ 9845035333

HORAMAVU

SALE- New Independent & duplx homes, w interior, bore, hot location, Rs 1.65Cr/- Nego. Homzbuy(BUY/SELL): 8296010323. Zero Brokrge.

NAGARBHAVI

ULTRA LUXURIOUS premium Lake view Flats of 3 BHK (2450 sft) high end with all teakwood & bath fittings, all East Facing BBMP 'A' Katha in prime location near Deepa Complex, NAGARBHAVI, Rs.1.45 cr, inclusive all deposits with 2 carparking Party hall on terrace. Ph: 94484 62661, 98864 36804

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

COMMERCIAL PREMISES

CAMBRIDGE layout near saibaba GF,750sqft, ccp,100% power backup, 24hr hot water, Rs.14000 per sqft for Sale. ct: 9740714511/ 9740591411

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

MEDICAL

MEDICAL

REQUIRE All Karnataka District wist medical Representative/ASM/BDO/RSM for Mumbai based reputed Ayurvedic Gaharwar Pharma Products Private Ltd Company. Share your resume On WHATSAPP- 9323522131

THE TIMES GROUP

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times Of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Trushna Patil residing at No.S2, Nirmal Residency, Doddaballapura Main Road, Kadthanamale, Arakere, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, India -561203 have changed my name to Trushna Nilesh Patil vide affidavit dated 1.2.2024 sworn before notary S.R. Ravikumar Bangalore

I, Nilesh Patil residing at No.S2, Nirmal Residency, Doddaballapura Main Road, Kadthanamale, Arakere, B'lore Rural, Karnataka, India -561203 have changed my son's name from Swaroop Patil to Swaroop Nilesh Patil vide affidavit dated 1.2.2024 sworn before notary S.R. Ravikumar B'lore

I Khushboo Anand Agarwal D/O, Anand Agarwal R/o B3-204 Genesis Apartments, Sarjapura Outer Ring Road Junction, Sobha Garnet, Bellandur Bangalore, Karnataka-560103 have changed my name to Khushboo Agarwal.

I Vikas Hidakal S/O, Vithal Hidakal R/o B2 511, Wonderwall Apartment Sy 22, Sompura Village, Sarjapur - Marathahalli Rd, Bengaluru - 562125 have changed my name to Vikas Vithal Hidakal.

I, MUJEEB UR RAHAMAN MOHAMMED HUSSAIN, R/a #199, Shikari Palya, Hulimangala Post, Jigani, Bangalore-105, I, have changed my name to, MUJEEB UR RAHMAN, Vide affidavit, dated 01/02/2024 sworn before Notary V.Rajashekhara Bangalore

I Syed Rasul Syed Yusuf S/O, Syed Yusuf R/o No 16/16/1, Corion Church Road, Vidyasagar, Saraipalya, Near Sdv School, Thanisandra Main Road, Shivarama Karanth Nagar Post, Bangalore-560077 have changed my name to Syed Rasul.

I, Ravindra Rokki Lob Residing at No.86, Kodnai, Honnavara, Kodani Post, Uttara Kannada-581423 have changed my name to RAVINDRA ROCKY LOBO vide affidavit dated 12.01.2024 Sworn before notary: D Sarala Kumari, Bangalore

I, Karunakar Sodanapalli, Residing at No 305, 4th Floor, Balaji Paradise, Kathriguppe 1st Cross, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085, Have changed our minor Son's name AARYAN RAM SODANAPALLI to VIVAN S K vide affidavit dated 01/ 02/ 2024 sworn before Notary S.N. Madhu Bangalore

GALLERIA

SALE 3rd -10th Feb 2024
FLAT 25% OFF
VESTS-BRIEF-BRA-PANTY-SLIPS
TOWELS - WALLETS-CLUTCHES
& LADIES FANCY BAGS
JOHNSON
ANAND
WHOLESALE WINTER WEAR
OSWAL | SWEATERS | THERMALS
JACKETS | KURTA SET | BLANKET'S
SCOLES & WINTER ACCESSORIES
Shop Online @ www.brightways.in
BRIGHTWAYS
AVENUE ROAD, BENGALURU-560 002
97422-02223 OPEN ON SUNDAY

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Parenthood

[ˈpɛːrənthʊd] noun

A state of communicating with a mini version of yourself who talks like 'wulabunulukuchuputhalasuiii'

Having difficulty becoming a parent?
Book an appointment today!

Get IVF @₹95,000*
Come as a couple, go as a family.
oasis FERTILITY

Visit your nearest Oasis Fertility centre
HSR Layout | Banashankari | Hebbal

*excluding medications

GET NOTICED

Entry Free!
LAST 2 DAYS
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು
ಆರ್ಟ್ಸ್ ಅಂಡ್ ಕ್ರಾಫ್ಟ್ ಮೇಳ
Bangalore
Arts and Crafts Mela
Enrich your Shopping Excellence
Art, Craft & Handlooms Exhibition
26th Jan to 4th Feb 2024
Timings: 11 AM - 7 PM
10 Days Exhibition
Contact : 9036658774 / 6364685716
Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath,
Kumara Krupa Road, Near Shivananda Circle
Bengaluru -560 001.
Organized By
Grand Flea Market
HANDLOOMS | HOME DECOR | HANDICRAFTS | CLOTHING | JEWELLERY | 100+ STALLS | LIVE PERFORMANCE

‘My life, writings, work are my only response’

Says activist Mander as CBI books him, NGO for alleged FCRA violations; conducts searches

#NEW DELHI

The CBI has registered a case of alleged violation of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act against human rights activist Harsh Mander and his NGO, and searched his premises on Friday, officials said.

The searches were conducted at two locations in Delhi including Mander's official and residential premises, according to a CBI statement.

The agency registered the FIR against the former IAS officer and his Delhi-based CES after conducting a preliminary enquiry on a complaint from the Home Ministry for the alleged violations of various provisions of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA).

The agency had registered a preliminary enquiry on April 13 last year on a complaint from the Home Ministry against the Centre for Equity Studies, Aman Biradari Trust, Oxfam India and Action Aid Association over alleged FCRA violations.

The enquiry revealed that the Centre for Equity Studies was established and registered as a trust with Harsh Mander as its chairman, the FIR said.

"It has been alleged that the NGO had transferred Rs. 32.71 lakh other than salary/wages/remuneration, from its FCRA account into the account of individual(s) during 2020-21 in violation of the provisions of FCRA, 2010. It has also been alleged that the NGO had also diverted funds worth Rs 10 lakh from its FCRA account through the firm(s) in violation of the provisions of FCRA, 2010," the CBI spokesperson said in the statement.

Centre for Equity Studies
24, Ground Floor, Adhchini, New Delhi-110017
Tel.: 011-41070050, Email: centreforequitystudies@gmail.com
Web.: www.centreforequitystudies.org

A media personnel takes photos of the office of 'Centre for Equity Studies' an advocacy outfit founded by activist Harsh Mander, after CBI raids, in New Delhi on Friday

The enquiry has revealed that through its Chairman Mander, the CES diverted funds from FCRA accounts in alleged violations of FCRA, the FIR has alleged.

The Home Ministry had suspended CES' FCRA certification on June 14 last year for six months.

Reacting to the CBI action, noted lawyer Prashant Bhushan said on X, "CBI is raiding Harsh Mander's house and office. He has been one of the most gentle, humane & generous activists who has worked tirelessly for the weak and poor. He is being targeted only because he has been critical of this government. All agencies are being blatantly used to target critics."

Thanking Bhushan, Mander said, "We must continue to join hands to defend the idea of a country of love & freedom, whatever maybe the costs."

> **It has been alleged that the NGO had transferred ₹32.71 L other than salary/ wages/remuneration, from its FCRA account into the account of individual(s) during 2020-21** –CBI spokesperson

Terming the CBI action 'persecution', Delhi University Professor Apoorvanand said all agencies of the government have been deployed against Mander who works for the most vulnerable and for minority rights.

More than 250 citizens, including former Planning Commission member Syeda S Hameed, columnist Kavita Krishnan, economist Jean Dreze and activist Medha Patkar, issued a statement, demanding a closure of the FIR filed by the CBI and other investigations underway against Mander.

The signatories expressed "deep concern over the vindictive nature of these investigations", emphasising that no chargesheet has been presented in a court of law in any of the cases dating back to 2020.

In a statement, they said that speaking on the raids, Mander expressed his unwavering resolve, stating, "My life, my writings, and my work are my only response."

–PTI

Karnataka beat Andhra, win Nagesh Trophy

Karnataka lifted the Nagesh Trophy after defeating Andhra Pradesh by nine wickets in the final of the Men's National T20 Cricket Tournament for the Blind here on Friday.

Batting first, Andhra Pradesh posted 237 for five in the allotted 20 overs.

In a thrilling match for the visually impaired cricketers, Karnataka chased down the target of 238 with three balls to spare, reaching 241 for one.

The title clash brought to an end 71 days of relentless cricket, featuring some fine batting and bowling performances by the participating teams.

Sunil Ramesh was named the Player of the Final for his explosive knock of 149 off 67 balls.

Formidable Andhra Pradesh dominated the tournament for a major part before faltering in the last hurdle to emerge as the second best team.

The winning team received a cash prize of Rs 1.04 lakh while the runners-up side got richer by Rs 80,000.

The Player of the Series got Rs 10,000. Player of the match received Rs 3000. –PTI

Tele-ICU system at all K'taka taluk hospitals in phased manner

Karnataka Health Minister Dinesh Gundurao on Friday said that tele-ICU system will be set up in all taluk hospitals of the state in a phased manner.

Speaking at the inauguration of a tele-ICU at Victoria Hospital here, he said the people in rural areas should be treated by qualified specialist doctors. It is becoming difficult for rural people from remote villages to visit super-specialty hospital in distant district for treatment.

"Tele-ICU system is helpful in providing super specialty care at taluk hospitals. We have emphasised on the use of technologies such as setting up ICU centres at the taluk level and monitoring them from here," he said.

The Health Minister said that health check-up and consultation of patients admitted to taluk hospitals in case of emergency can be given by the specialist doctors through teleICU.

"This system has already been implemented in Hubballi and Mysuru and now we have implemented tele-ICU in Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru and Ballari Medical College. A total of four government medical institutions have been created as hubs and 41 taluk hospitals have been linked to them," he said.

Health check-up and consultation can be given through teleICU

Gundurao said that 10 tele-ICU beds have been arranged in these 41 taluk hospitals and super-specialty care will be available to patients with the advice of expert doctors through AI technologies.

Nine taluk hospitals each have been linked to Bengaluru and Ballari cluster, 10 taluk hospitals have been linked to Hubballi KIMS Hospital and 13 taluk hospitals have been linked to Mysuru Medical Institute. A total of 41 taluk hospitals have been constituted as spoke centres, he added. "There is a plan to set up tele-ICU in 60 taluk hospitals next year."

Minister Dinesh Gundurao said that health services of specialist doctors will be provided through tele-ICU in all taluk hospitals of the state step by step.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar who inaugurated the tele-ICU clusters along with Gundurao here, lauded the tele-intensive care units as a revolutionary step in healthcare.

"The ability to manage critical patients in remote places by doctors in Bengaluru is a revolutionary step.... The tele ICUs enable ICU beds to be set up in far-off places and the patients there can be monitored remotely by experts in Bengaluru. This facility must be expanded to all the places so that high quality medical care is available to everyone," he said.

Shivakumar stressed that tele-ICUs must be set up at all the taluk headquarters. –PTI

Nrityanidhi
Presents
Tickets available on bookmyshow
Raag
Inspired by Indian Classical Music
Sunday, 11th February 2024, 6:30 PM
A Choreographic Expression of the Heritage of Indian Classical Music ~ in the exclusive 'Nrityanidhi Style of Dance'!
Venue: Bangalore International Centre (BIC), Indiranagar, Bengaluru
Contact: +91 97428 01208 / +91 9926906528
www.nrityanidhi.com
Entry Ticket ₹ 1,800/- 1,500/- 950/-

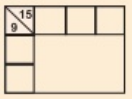
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

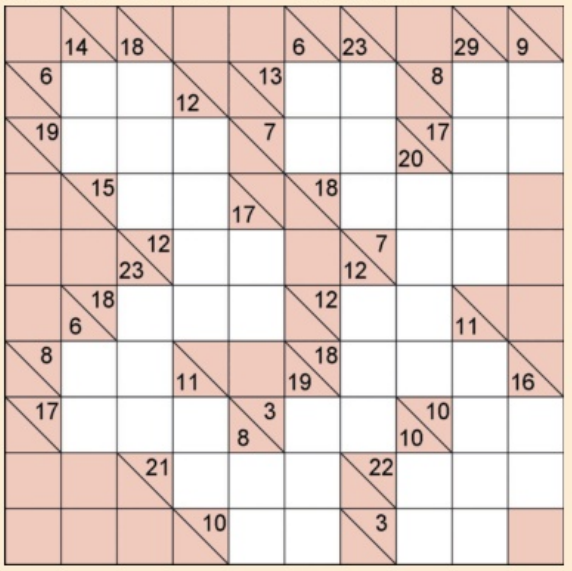
$x^2=(64^4\div64^3)\div(4^3\div4^2)$
$x = ?$

Kakuro

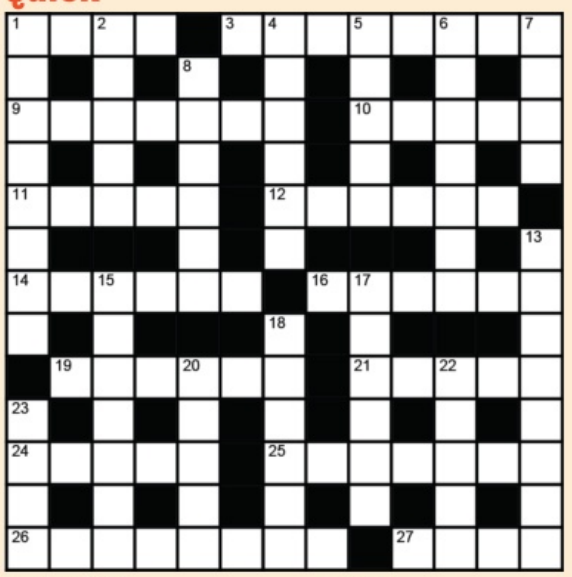
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Filth (4)
3 Compels observance of law, etc. (8)
9 Discover (4,3)
10 Talk-show host ___ DeGeneres (5)
11 Self-evident truth (5)
12 Corresponded in sound (6)
14 Trigonometric function (6)
16 A drawing (6)
19 Japanese number puzzle (6)
21 Refute (5)
24 Not suitable (5)
25 Frighten (7)
26 Shamefaced (8)
27 Wraps up (4)

DOWN

1 Resistance (8)
2 India's cricket trophy (5)
4 Public officer (6)
5 __ __ one : singly? (3,2)
6 Accumulate (7)
7 Gone under (4)
8 With no exception? (2,1,3)
13 Breaks into pieces (8)
15 Mix up or sift through? (7)
17 Karnataka city just south of Goa (6)
18 Money-bags? (6)
20 Readily available (2,3)
22 Conductor's stick (5)
23 Little insects (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: K EQUALS N

KT TKM VNKWC NJRZAM – TKBO ATEETHTENWZTK.

Linemaro

I couldn't take my eyes off you

Mindchow

Don't waste time on jealousy. Sometimes you are ahead, sometimes you are behind

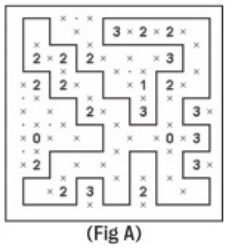
Joke of the day

I wish if I saw somebody on the street I didn't want to talk to, I could go "Excuse me, I'm not in right now. If you could just leave a message, I could walk away."

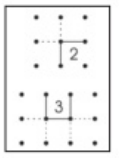
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

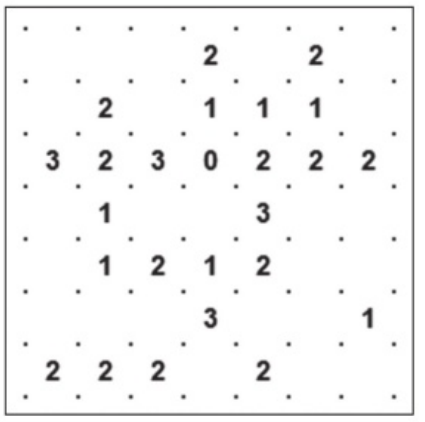


(Fig B) Not Allowed

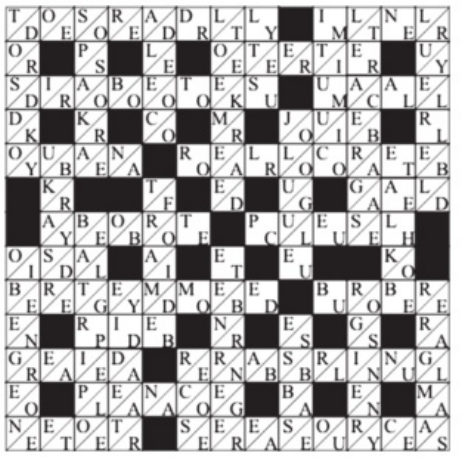
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



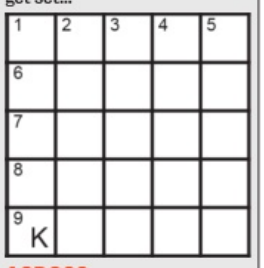
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

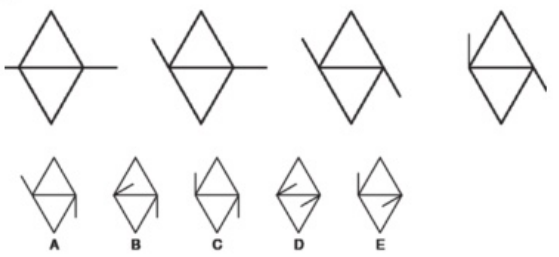
1 For Al; 6 Or lev;
7 Genoa; 8 Iliac;
9 Ask on

DOWN

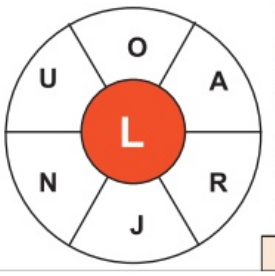
1 Lack F; 2 Ali go;
3 OO Vol; 4 Inner;
5 As are

Mensapuzzle

What comes next?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

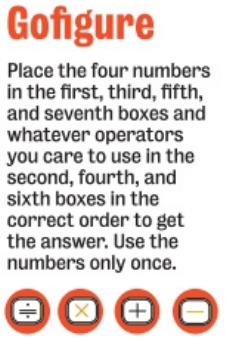
SudokuChallenge

	7	8		3		9	5	
3				7				8
			6		5			
4	5						6	7
		2				5		
9	8						4	1
			8		1			
6				5				4
	9	7		6		1	2	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



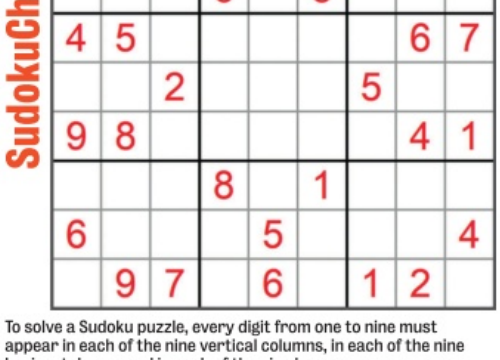
Easy = 17
1 4 4 8

Medium = 56
7 8 9 9

Hard = 4
2 7 9 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



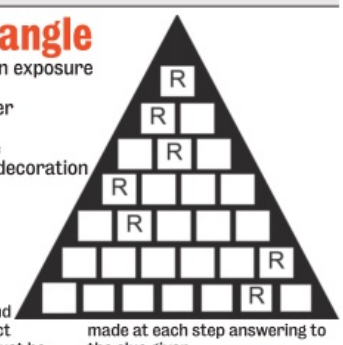
Differences: 1. Flower is reversed. 2. Window is larger. 3. Mouth is open. 4. Apron is missing. 5. Sleeve is different. 6. Pencil is behind ear.

Riddler

One third plus two of Molly's class got stickers for good behaviour, while 7/9 minus five got stickers for good work. Assuming everyone got one sticker only, how many children were in Molly's class?

Alpha triangle

1 A unit of radiation exposure
2 In reference to
3 Food for a smelter
4 Cowboy tool
5 Written language
6 Teen's bedroom decoration
7 High hats



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

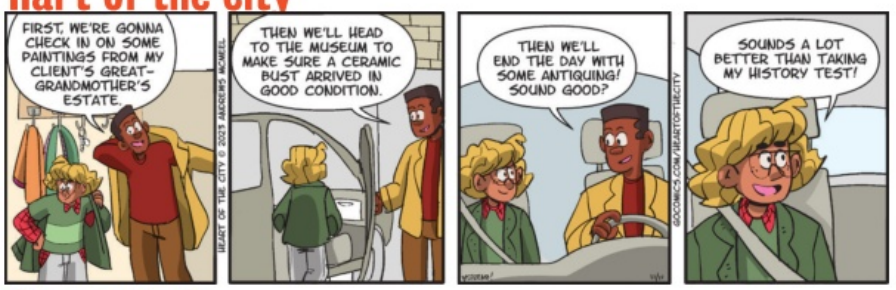
COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


FIRST, WE'RE GONNA CHECK IN ON SOME PAINTINGS FROM MY CLIENT'S GREAT-GRANDMOTHER'S ESTATE.
THEN WE'LL HEAD TO THE MUSEUM TO MAKE SURE A CERAMIC BUST ARRIVED IN GOOD CONDITION.
THEN WE'LL END THE DAY WITH SOME ANTIQUING! SOUND GOOD?
SOUNDS A LOT BETTER THAN TAKING MY HISTORY TEST!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT THERE'S NO CALL FOR MY BAKING COLUMN ANYMORE?
OH, I WOULDN'T SAY THAT, LENA...
IN FACT, WE'VE HAD QUITE A NUMBER OF CALLS TO GET RID OF IT!
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts

I DO MISS THAT SWEET GIRL. BUT I'M SURE SHE'LL BE BACK SOON TO VISIT ME.
HECK
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING ANYWHERE.
BAM
HEY...
WHAT'S THAT MOVING TRUCK DOING IN FRONT OF OUR HOUSE!?!
mutts.com/GuardDog

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today until late afternoon is not good; you may feel unhappy and become nervous, but after noon onwards, you will be more happy. Internal vitality will boost your self-confidence. You should avoid carelessness in making decisions in terms of finance, profession, and studies. Sometimes, you may face self-respect issues with your spouse. You need to keep your patience to avoid converting happy moments into bad ones. Love birds will plan for short trips.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, your tendency to overspend will affect your savings. You should be careful while expressing yourself at work and on the domestic front, too. You should avoid lending money. You should postpone making important decisions in real estate and other asset issues. You should try to avoid a tendency to deviate from your responsibilities.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, socially, you will re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in the near future. Natives related to glamour, art, and fashion will plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students will perform better today in terms of study. Love birds will enjoy their happy moments.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today will be a busy day for you in terms of work. Overload may make you tired, but you will enjoy your work. You will be good. You will not spend money on worthless stuff. You will be more polite with your family, friends, and loved ones. You may also get some good news from family members.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, blessings from elders will give you confidence. You shall follow your intuition before taking any initiatives that will help you in your work. Your intuition will help you gain more in terms of finance. You will plan to visit some religious places with your family members. You shall control your arrogance to enjoy your domestic life. Students will expect good results with the help of destiny.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, before the forenoon, you may feel happy and enjoy your work. From the afternoon on, negative feelings will make you dull, which will affect your professional life. You will also expect some domestic arguments. You shall avoid lending money to anyone; it might not be recoverable easily. You will analyse yourself and figure out your negativities. Occult sciences will attract you today in terms of study.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon. You have been in a very good mood since this morning. You will be more romantic, and it will bring harmony into our domestic lives. Your patience will help you do your best professionally. You will see some coordination with your colleagues and business partner.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
You will be successful in controlling leakage and worthless expenditures, which will boost your bank balance. You should be careful about kids' health. Singles can make unexpected progress in terms of marriage. Persons related to travel, diplomats, and the supply chain will do better. You should be careful about stomach issues.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today Your plans will not work on a professional front, which will make you arrogant. You should try to avoid making important decisions in terms of investment and relationships. Couples and lovebirds should try to avoid arguments to maintain harmony in their relationships. Students should not choose shortcuts in their studies.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, the moon will make you more sensitive and emotional. You should avoid investing in real estate or other assets. You should take care of your parent's health. You will expect some delay in your work, and you will face it with patience. On the professional front, you should not be indecisive.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you will be glad; you will be able to maintain a balance between your earnings and expenditures, which will boost your finances. Your network will help you implement your plans. Your siblings and subordinate staff will be more helpful today. Plan to visit elders or religious places.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, your energy level will be high, so it will make you happy and optimistic to fulfil your desires with the help of hard work. You will plan to go on outings with friends and family to share your happiness. Students will hear good news in terms of studies.

KIDZONE

Sai Pravaal V, 8 Years, Bishop Cotton Boys School

P Krithika, 14 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$x^2=(64\cdot(4-3))\div(4\cdot(3-2))$
$x^2=64^1\div4^1$
$x^2=64\div4$
$x^2=16$
$x=\sqrt{16}$
$x=\pm4$

BULL'S EYE
JOURNAL, loan, lunar, oral, ulna

FAST FIVE

K	A	O	N	S
C	I	L	I	A
L	O	V	E	R
A	G	O	N	E
F	L	O	R	A

STRIKE OUT

N	E	E	R	■	E	R	A	S	A	S	U	R	E	S
O	■	P	E	A	C	E	■	B	E	■	A	■	■	■
R	A	I	D	■	E	N	A	B	L	I	N	G	■	■
■	P	I	E	■	N	E	■	S	■	■	A	■	■	■
B	E	G	E	M	M	E	D	■	B	O	E	R	■	■
O	S	A	■	A	T	■	E	■	O	■	■	■	■	■
A	B	O	R	T	■	P	L	U	S	H	■	■	■	■
K	■	F	■	D	■	U	■	G	A	D	■	■	■	■
Y	U	A	N	■	R	E	L	O	C	A	T	E	■	■
D	K	■	C	■	R	■	J	I	B	■	L	■	■	■
D	I	A	B	E	T	E	S	■	M	A	L	L	■	■
O	S	■	L	■	E	R	I	E	■	U	■	■	■	■
T	O	O	E	A	R	L	Y	■	M	T	N	L	■	■

QUICK

S	H	E	E	P	I	S	H	■	E	N	D	S	■	■
G	■	L	■	A	■	E	■	R	■	O	■	R	■	■
U	N	F	I	T	■	S	T	A	R	T	L	E	■	■
■	B	■	F	■	N	■	R	■	W	■	A	■	T	■
■	S	U	D	O	K	U	■	R	E	B	U	T	■	■
■	■	E	■	H	■	P	■	A	■	■	■	A	■	■
■	C	O	S	I	N	E	■	S	K	E	T	C	H	■
■	N	■	A	■	Y	■	C	■	■	■	■	S	■	■
A	X	I	O	M	■	R	H	Y	M	E	D	■	■	■
I	■	J	■	A	■	B	■	L	■	■	■	K	■	■
F	I	N	D	O	U	T	■	E	L	L	E	N	■	■
E	A	T	■	O	■	N	■	O	■	■	■	U	■	■
D	I	R	T	■	E	N	F	O	R	C	E	S	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
C: the arms move clockwise in turn 45°

RIDDLER
Twenty-seven children

QUOTE UNCODE
No one wants advice – only corroboration.

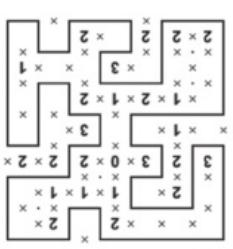
SUDOKU

8	9	7	4	6	3	1	2	5
6	3	1	7	5	2	8	9	4
5	2	4	8	9	1	6	7	3
9	8	6	5	2	7	3	4	1
7	1	2	3	4	6	5	8	9
4	5	3	9	1	8	2	6	7
1	4	9	6	8	5	7	3	2
3	6	5	2	7	9	4	1	8
2	7	8	1	3	4	9	5	6

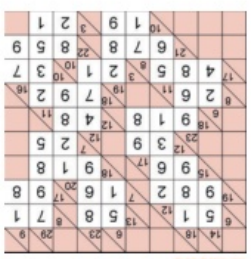
ALPHA TRIANGLE
R, Re, Ore, Rope, Prose, Poster, Toppers.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 8 + 1 + 4 = 17
Medium
7 x 8 – 9 + 9 = 56
Hard
9 + 4 – 2 – 7 = 4

LOOP



KAKURO

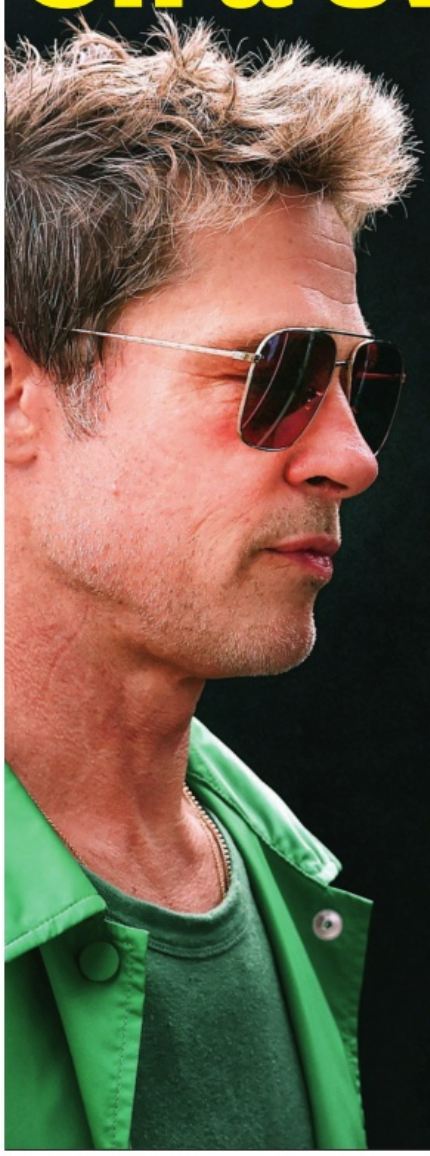


Volume No 17, Issue No 005 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/22411 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore – 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru – 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

'I feel her pain'— Actress Sushmita Sen, who is gearing up for 'Aarya Antim Vaar', has said that the pain of her titular character of Aarya Sareen feels very personal to her. The International Emmy nominated series follows the journey of its titular character

BangaloreMirror | 16
Saturday, February 3, 2024
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

On a swansong



Hollywood star Brad Pitt is likely reuniting with Quentin Tarantino for the filmmaker's 10th and ostensibly final feature, 'The Movie Critic'.

The status of the deal is unclear. Tarantino has remained tight-lipped about 'The Movie Critic' but it's reportedly set in southern California during the 1970s and centres on a cynical film reviewer, reports Variety.

It's rumoured to be inspired by the life of Pauline Kael, the late New Yorker writer who was one of the most influential film critics of her time.

Tarantino sidestepped inquiries about 'The Movie Critic' during a conversation at the Cannes Film Festival in 2023, saying to audience: "I can't tell you guys (anything) until you see the movie. I'm tempted to do some of the character's monologues right now, but I'm not going to. Maybe if there were less video cameras. You just have to wait and see."

As per Variety, Brad Pitt is expected to spend a portion of 2024 filming a Formula One racing feature from 'Top Gun: Maverick' director Joseph Kosinski. In that film, an Apple production, he's playing a veteran driver who comes out of retirement to compete alongside a rookie racer and the titans of the sport. Deadline first reported the news of Brad Pitt' potential casting. So, if talks for 'The Movie Critic' are finalised, it likely wouldn't begin production until mid-year or later. **—IANS**

CRUSHING HARD

Triptii steals the show, but that was not planned

Triptii Dimri received appreciation from the audience for her role in Sandeep Reddy Vanga's 'Animal''. She soon went out to become a 'national crush', replacing her co-star Rashmika Mandanna.

Spilling some beans on the same, Marketing head of 'Animal', Varun Gupta told Zoom in an interview that Triptii's popularity after the film and her becoming national crush was unexpected and was not a part of any preconceived plan. According to him, it was just the way she was presented by the filmmaker that led her to her success.

Discussing the film's marketing approach, he expressed the importance of the pre-teaser in setting the overall tone. Notably, the pre-teaser featured action sequences, laying the groundwork for the film's themes. The subsequent trailer strategically included glimpses of action, contributing significantly to the campaign's impact.

In response to significant criticism faced by the movie 'Animal,' Triptii Dimri defended the film by suggesting that if certain elements are unsuitable for viewers, they should opt not to watch them. Speaking about her character Zoya, she described her as "perfect the way she is" and emphasized Zoya's honesty and sincerity. Dimri expressed a reluctance to alter anything about the character. When asked about a scene involving shoes and its influence on audiences, Dimri said the impact depends on individual perspectives. **—ETimes**

Poonam Pandey death news met with disbelief

Actor Poonam Pandey, who hit the headlines in 2011 with her declaration that she would strip if India won the cricket World Cup, died of cervical cancer at the age of 32, her publicist said on Friday but didn't have details of exactly where and when.

Till the end of a day spent trawling websites and contacting people who may have known her, there was no confirmation of the death of the model, influencer and sometime actor known for her bold statements and appearances.

As messages poured in, some shocked and others sceptical, #Poonam Pandey trended on X and Instagram.

Was it indeed true? How could a woman die so young? Was the news fake? Wasn't she seen on the red carpet of an event just three days ago? The questions swirled with both Pandey and cervical cancer the centre of furious discussion across social media platforms, offices and drawing room conversations. **— PTI**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

By nomads

Director Siddhu C Kattimani is busy with the release of his movie Alemari Ee Baduku slated for February 16. Kattimani organised an event for the release of trailer and songs of the movie on Monday at Renukamba Preview Theater.

Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce president NM Suresh, Kannada Film Producers Association president Umesh Banakar, actor-cum-social activist Chetan Ahimsa, and environmentalist Prakruthi Prasanna graced the function.

Kattimani said that the majority of the cast of the movie are nomads. "The movie is about nomads, my maiden movie as an independent director. I wrote the script, dialogues, and lyrics for this movie," said Kattimani.

Thanking the guests, producer Divya Kumar HN said that he agreed to bankroll the movie because of its interesting script. "I expect this movie to become a favourite with all," said Divya Kumar.

Music director Thyagaraj MS said the movie has five songs. "Kattimani and Manoj Saugandh wrote the lyrics. The songs are being released through Siri Music," said Thyagaraj. Describing the songs as rivers that meet the sea, Suresh Chikkanna of Siri Music thanked the director for enabling artists from different parts of the state to act in this movie.

A message for women

Muthu AN, who graduated from associate director to an independent director, is bullish about the success of his maiden movie Ladies' Bar.

"The specialty of the movie is it's script that many people can relate with. The story is the hero of this movie. The movie highlights what happens when women go to a bar. It has other elements to entertain the audiences. It also has a good message for the society," said Muthu. A function was held to release the trailer of Ladies' Bar at SRV Theater on Monday. Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce president NM Suresh, Kannada Film Producers Association president Umesh Banakar, actor Dharma Keerthiraj, and producer Shilpa Srinivas were present on the occasion. TM Somaraju has bankrolled the movie under the DMC Productions banner.

Dharma Keerthiraj said the director has come out with a good movie that has a very good message to society.

Emphasising the need to encourage newcomers, Suresh said the trailer is interesting.